

Abstract of the Disclosure

A novel method for preparing a heteropolyacid catalyst containing a heteropolyacid composed of molybdophosphoric acid and/or molybdovanadophosphoric acid, or a salt of the heteropolyacid, is provided. The method comprises preparing an aqueous solution or aqueous dispersion which

- (1) contains the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound, nitrate anions and ammonium ions,
- (2) the ammonium ion content not exceeding 1.7 mols per mol of the nitrate anion content,

and

- (3) the ammonium ion content not exceeding 10 mols per 12 mols of the molybdenum atom content

by mixing raw materials containing the catalyst-constituting elements with the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound in the presence of water, drying and calcining the same. This heteropolyacid catalyst excels over conventional catalysts in performance, life and strength.